

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 L-03 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 INR-11

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 PM-07 NSC-07 SS-20 H-03

DRC-01 /100 W

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O 180705Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0543

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4003

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, BGEN, PO

SUBJ: SITUATION READER'S DIGEST PORTUGAL

1. EMBASSY OFFICER TALKED TO JORGE D'OREY PINHEIRO, DIRECTOR READER'S DIGEST OF PORTUGAL. ACCORDING PINHEIRO DRAFT PRESS LAW AS PRESENTLY WRITTEN WILL PUT RD OUT OF BUSINESS. KEY CLAUSES ARE NUMBER 5 OF ARTICLE 7 WHICH STATES PUBLISHING FIRMS CAN HAVE NO OTHER BUSINESS (RD ALSO SELLS RECORD ALBUMS AND SOUND EQUIPMENT), AND CLAUSE NUMBER 7 OF ARTICLE 7 WHICH STATES PUBLISHING FIRMS MUST BE 66 PER CENT PORTUGUESE OWNED (RD IS 99 PER CENT U.S. OWNED).

2. RD EXECUTIVES HAVE APPOINTMENT AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 18TH WITH MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS. THEY WILL PROPOSE THAT ARTICLE 57 BE AMENDED SO THAT CLAUSES 5 AND 7 OF ARTICLE 7 WILL NOT BE APPLICABLE TO THEM. PINHEIRO NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT OUTCOME OF MEETING.

3. PINHEIRO STATES THAT INTENTION OF LAW'S DRAFTERS IS TO DRIVE RD OUT OF BUSINESS IN PORTUGAL EVEN THOUGH IT DOES NOT COMPETE ECONOMICALLY OR FOR POLITICAL INFLUENCE WITH PORTUGUESE PERIODICALS. COMMITTEE
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THAT WROTE LAW MADE UP OF REPS OF PPD, PS, PCP, ALONG

WITH REPS OF DAILY PAPERS, NON-DAILY PERIODICALS,
LABOR UNIONS, AND TWO OTHERS APPOINTED BY GOVERNMENT.
LEADING ADVOCATE OF CLAUSES EFFECTING RD IS PPD REP
WHO ACCORDING TO PINHEIRO WAS TRYING TO WIN FAVOR
AMONG PUBLISHING INDUSTRY FOR PPD WHICH NOW FINDS
IT DIFFICULT TO HAVE ITS COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED IN
LISBON PRESS. IN OTHER WORDS RD IS VISIBLE TARGET
FOR PPD TO SHOOT AT.

4. TEXT OF ABOVE REFERRED TO ARTICLES TO FOLLOW IN SEPTTEL.
SCOTT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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